



Shining a Light on Broadmead

Vol. 44, No. 6

Broadmead, Cockeysville, MD

February 2023

What's next for the Toll House project?

By Ann Hunter

"We've had many accomplishments during the six-month period since we were established," says Carolyn Adams, chair of the Historic Preservation Committee. Made up of residents, staff, and board members, the committee was formed to determine what needs to be done to preserve the four historic buildings across York Road that are owned by Broadmead.

The immediate focus is on the Toll House, which is the oldest and most fragile of the houses. A site condition assessment report from Atelier Giguere, LLC prioritized and estimated the costs of necessary repairs. The most significant structural concern is the crumbling foundation, which is causing walls to slant and, without remediation, will cause the building to "slide down the hill," warned architect Jeffrey Lees.

No Broadmead funds will be used for the work. The major focus now is securing public funds through a grant from the Maryland Historic Trust and, most importantly, through a bond bill sponsored by State Senator Chris West. To raise additional money to support the preservation effort, the Greenfield Historic Preservation Fund was established by residents Carolyn Adams and Marjorie Bedinger. The trust accepts private donations.

The Toll House Historic Area, protected by the Maryland Historic Trust, is a rare surviving example of a cluster of rural 19th-century buildings along York Road that were built as part of the for-profit turnpike movement in the

county. The houses were also tied to the nearby mills. The Baltimore and York Turnpike was incorporated in 1805. One of the organizers was Joseph Thornburgh, owner of Mt. Repose Farm (now Broadmead) and a grist mill and distillery on either side of Western Run, just south of Broadmead. The toll gate house was built in 1809 at the bottom of Fifteen Mile Hill. The first gatekeeper, John Hatton, added the kitchen with its massive stone chimney in 1810.

One possible future for the Toll House is to use it as a museum/event space featuring the history of the area's turnpikes and mills.

The Broadmead Executive Committee will meet in late February to evaluate the potential long-term uses for all of its historic properties, including Holly House and the four properties in the historic district. While awaiting decisions on the funding requests, Broadmead's facilities staff will be preparing requests for proposals for the required work on the Toll House. "We hope to have initial work started in the summer," Carolyn says.

Note: Information on how to contribute to the Greenfield Historic Preservation Trust can be found on Broadmead's website <https://www.broadmead.org/giving.html> or by contacting Eleanor Landauer, Vice President of Advancement and Communication at (443) 578-8044 or elandauer@broadmead.org.

Banner photo by Erroll Hay

New program to improve staff recruitment and retention

By Jackie Mintz

Broadmead has recently initiated a new program to address the continuing problem of the scarcity of staff. The program aims to increase the retention rate of new employees by directly involving existing employees in a recruitment and retention program. Yolanda Johnson, Vice President of Human Resources, explained that, given the tight labor market and the difficulty hiring and retaining good employees, Broadmead felt it had to find a different approach.

The new program, which is limited to hourly, non-exempt employees, established a Recruitment and Retention Committee (RRC) comprised of employees who volunteer for the program. These staff members serve on hiring committees that include supervisors from the applicant's prospective department. The RRC members interview applicants for positions (but not in their own departments). The supervisor looks for an applicant's ability to do the job; the RRC member looks for the applicant's fit with Broadmead. If an applicant is hired, the RRC member is assigned to mentor the new employee.

Each RRC member commits to taking part in at least four interviews a month and to meeting with their mentee at least once a month. For their service, RRC members receive an additional \$1 per hour. If the applicant is hired and stays for six months or more, the mentor

receives \$500. If the new employee stays for a year, the mentor receives an additional \$500. An RRC member can have an unlimited number of mentees.

The cost of the RRC program is expected to be substantially lower than the cost of recruiting, training, and then losing employees would be, according to Yolanda.

The program and training started in November. Human Resources will review the retention numbers on a monthly basis and report on the six-month result in June.

The following employees were chosen for the RRC based on their enthusiasm about and commitment to Broadmead:

Tiffany Adams (CMA, Outpatient Healthcare)

Mary Atkins (Personal Assistant, Friends Connect)

Lisa Berres (Transportation Supervisor)

Theresa Campbell (Personal Assistant, Friends Connect)

Kristen Fox (Arbor Café Supervisor)

Katie Hartry (Community Service Associate)

Crissy Keemer (Lead Server)

Claude Meekins (Lifestyle Coordinator)

Kelly Rodier (RN, Outpatient Healthcare)

Ally Svezese (Marketing Coordinator)

Shameka Taylor (Purchasing Coordinator, Health Services)

David Wolf (Driver, Transportation).

Broadmead Chorus

*Now rehearsing for the
Spring Concert*

Fridays, 10:30 a.m., Auditorium
New singers welcome!

Classics Book Group

A Passage to India
by E.M. Forster

Monday, February 20, 10 a.m.
Fireplace Room

Broadmead Writers

Fridays 3:30–5:00 p.m.
via Zoom for now
For information, contact Maggie Babb
maggiebabb@gmail.com

Monday Book Groups

Mondays, 10:30 a.m., Fireplace Room
February 6, *Midwives* by Chris Bohjalian
March 6, *Brat Farrar* by Josephine Tey
(mystery)

Broadmead's heating system

Text and photos by Pat van den Beemt

Last year saw unprecedented high and low temperatures. BWI Airport registered a sweltering 99 degrees on August 4 and dipped to a bone-chilling 5 degrees on December 24. But despite those ups and downs, the temperature at Broadmead's Community Center stayed comfortable.



Chris Scism with old, but still functioning water chiller.

While the Holly Terrace had a heating problem for a few days during the unprecedented cold spell at Christmas, residents generally enjoy the Center's climate without thinking about it. But keeping spaces comfortable is all that Chris Scism thinks about. Chris is Broadmead's HVAC guy and has been on the job for 14 years.

Chris keeps the common areas of the Center at 72 degrees in the winter and 70 degrees in the summer. Individual rooms, such as the Fireplace Room and other meeting rooms, have their own thermostats to regulate the temperature.

There are seven huge gas-powered boilers and two high-efficiency heat pumps on the third floor of the Center that do the work. Some heat the Center, several generate the Center's hot water, and some send hot water to the garden homes' heat pumps. Upland and York buildings are heated with high-efficiency heat pumps.

As strange as it sounds, the Center's air conditioning is turned on all year. Chris said that in Taylor, for example, the individual rooms are all heated, causing the hallways to become too hot. So the hallways are air-conditioned. The same scenario occurs in some hallways in the Center.

If you've ever seen a cloud of steam rising from the Center's roof, it's from the hot water sent there. The water absorbs the heat from the building and sends it to a cooling tower on the roof, where the outside air cools it. The colder it is outside, the bigger the temperature difference and the larger the plume.

Chris and plumber Marshall Roane (who has been at Broadmead for 41 years) are on call 24/7, 365 days a year. "I don't want any resident to be too hot or too cold," Chris says. "It's your home and you should have it the temperature you want."

He asks that residents with plug-in humidifiers change the filters once a month instead of every three months. He also requests that garden home residents close the doors to their patio enclosures in extreme weather—below 25 degrees or above 90 degrees.



Chris Scism with new, efficient water chillers.



Hot air from the air conditioner meets winter.

Mallards abound

By Debbie Terry; photo by Ashley Bradford

The mallard is the most widespread, successful, and recognizable duck in North America. It has easily adapted to environments that have been altered or created by humans. Its habitats are marshes, wooded swamps, and grasslands, provided there are ponds and rivers nearby. Broadmead's stormwater management pond is near Western Run and a wooded swamp, so voilà! Mallards abound.

The mallard is a puddle duck, meaning that it rarely dives, but rather forages in water by submerging its head and neck and tipping up its tail.



Photo by Ashley Bradford.

Mallards are omnivorous. The majority of their diet is plant material, such as sedges, grasses, and smartweed, but they also feed on insects, tadpoles, earthworms, and small fish.

Many people believe that feeding bread products to ducks is beneficial to their survival, but it is actually detrimental to their health. The bread swells and the ducks feel full, so they don't search for their normal, more nutritional foods.

So far, we have had another warm winter, which has provided open water (rather than ice), and at least 12 mallards have taken up residence in the stormwater management pond. You can watch Broadmead's mallards dive, swim, and sleep. And if you hear a mallard quack, it is a female.

Quaker Meeting at Broadmead

Sundays, 10:30–11:15 a.m.
Fireplace Room

All residents are invited
Masks required

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Opening of Wood Shop Becomes Active Reality

February 1980

Broadmead has provided excellent space for a wood shop. Through the generosity of some Residents, the shop is fully equipped with power and hand tools of all kinds. A number of interested Residents have held two planning sessions for the operation of the wood shop. A brief summary of some of the activities discussed follows:

1. Making articles that can be sold in the Country store, such as birdhouses, plate racks, checker games, low stools, step-up stools, low platforms for "johns," etc.
2. Making shelving for apartments.
3. Making furniture of various kinds.
4. Making models from prefabricated woods.

The Wood Shop is open 5 days, Mondays through Fridays, from 10 a. m. to 12 noon. A wood worker will be on duty during the open hours. All are welcome.

George Conner, Convener

Greater Barn Sale

Donations solicited

Barn Sale Workroom
Back hall, Lower Level

Thursdays
10 a.m. to noon
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Baclsrabe ta Edarombea

By Alice Cherbonnier



Marge Cheek and Nelson Hyman puzzling away at Scrabble.

If you paused to figure out the words in this headline, Scrabble could be your kind of game. If so, you'd be right at home among the weekly word puzzlers at Broadmead who are continuously improving their vocabulary skills while avidly competing. The epicenter for play? The York Building, where the Broadmead pick-up Scrabble games began two years ago during the COVID pandemic. Interest was so keen that a second Scrabble venue soon started up in the Upland Building. Players now also come from all over the campus.

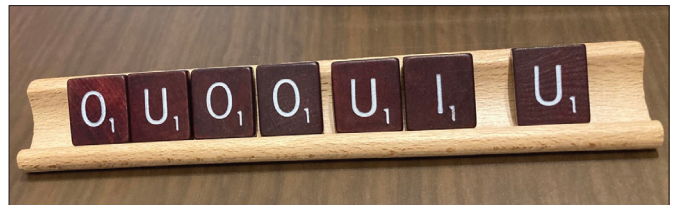
Scrabble Group stalwarts include Paula Bray, Tom Boytim, Dorian Borsella, Elenor Reid, Bill Hakkarinen, Nelson Hyman, Marge Cheek, Carel Hedlund, Len Fass, and Alice Cherbonnier. The group mourns the passing on January 2 of their fellow player Margaret Lord, a retired copy editor who was a dynamic competitor.

While Scrabble has official rules, the Broadmead contingent has evolved its own less-strict customs. Marge Cheek introduced the group to "The Scrabble Cheat Sheet," which lists a variety of short-word options for tight puzzling situations. Copies of these sheets, encased in clear plastic, are freely consulted during games by any player. The group also references copies of the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary. Sometimes players at a given table will decide not to use these aids and "go cold

turkey," but it's generally agreed that the sheets and dictionaries make the game more fun. "I only played recreationally until now. I didn't know how cutthroat it could be," joked Tom Boytim.

As with chess, bridge, sudoku, and crossword puzzles, Scrabble is among the mentally stimulating activities that are thought to help forestall cognitive decline—an added potential bonus.

If you would like to play Scrabble, come to the community rooms at 3 p.m. on Fridays (York Building) or Mondays (Upland Building). A printable copy of "The Scrabble Cheat" is available at: <https://wordswithletters.org/blog/scrabble-cheat-sheet>



A dreaded letter combination for Scrabble play.

Socrates Café

Do Souls Exist?

Is there something more than the physical to the human experience?
If so, what?

Short video and discussion
Tuesday, February 21
10:30–11:45 a.m., Auditorium

Sponsored by the Towson Unitarian
Universalist Church

Open to all

Vespers

Service led by a variety of
clergy and musicians
Sunday, February 19, 4 p.m.
Fireplace Room

Employee of the Month

By Willy Sydnor



Lamont Griffin, a housekeeping management associate, was voted the January Employee of the Month, an award that has been given each month for more than three years, according to Jennifer Bain, Senior Human Resources Director. The winner receives a certificate and gift card, and the award is presented at a ceremony at the Reception Desk.

Lamont, who has worked at Broadmead for five years in the Housekeeping Department, is a familiar presence in the Community Center. He was described by those who nominated him as "always working ... and does a thorough job," "pays attention to detail," and "is friendly and I enjoy encountering him."

If you would like to nominate an employee, forms are available at the Reception Desk. The nominations are presented anonymously and are voted on each month by a team of staff members.

Black History Month Programs

By Gwen Marable

The Multicultural Committee has planned three programs for February to celebrate Black History Month.

Bob Smith, a reenactor from the Griots Circle of Maryland, will appear as Benjamin Banneker, an African American man who lived in Oella, Baltimore County, in the 17th century. He was

a tobacco farmer who became known as a clockmaker, a surveyor for the new capital of the United States, author of six published almanacs, and a correspondent of Thomas Jefferson, then secretary of state. The date and place of the performance will be announced later. In May, the Multicultural Committee will sponsor a bus trip to the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum near Catonsville.

"Daughters of the Dust," a 1991 film written, directed, and produced by Julie Dash, will be shown on Wednesday, February 22, at 3 p.m. in the auditorium. The first feature film directed by an African American woman, it tells the story of three generations of Gullah women on St.



Simons Island off the coast of Georgia in 1902, as the younger members of the family prepare to migrate to the North.

Willa Banks, a historian, will return, via Zoom, to speak about the "African American Influence on Southern Cuisine" on Tuesday, February 28, at 3 p.m. She will explore the lifestyle of the grand mansions of Annapolis, the lavish dinner parties, balls, and horse racing. We will learn about the people held in bondage and free servants who cooked and served there. The Zoom link will be provided at a later date.

Health Care Lecture *Medication Safety* *Discussions*

Nicole Brandt, PharmD
Professor, Pharmacy Practice and Science
University of Maryland

In-person:
Thursday, Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Seminar Room

Via Zoom
Thursday, Feb. 16, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

In-person space limited; reserve with
Sue Appling, 443-421-1534

The friendliest dog

Text and photos by Kathleen Truelove



Residency Counselor Nancy Held plays with Maggie.

Maggie Dadds, a mixed-breed dog, is a South Carolina native. Three years ago, she was found as a pregnant stray and was rescued from a kill shelter. The pregnancy was aborted, and Maggie was driven to Dover, DE.

Bunny Dadds then found Maggie's photo online and took her home. In spite of her earlier trauma, Maggie was, from the time Bunny met her, the friendliest of dogs.

Not understanding that Maggie needed to have a clear view out of the windows, Bunny left her blinds closed when she left the house. Maggie took care of that by pulling all of them down. Once Bunny realized that Maggie just

wanted to see out, there were no further problems with new blinds or with any other behavior.

As anyone who has met Maggie out on her walks can attest, she is the friendliest dog at Broadmead.



Maggie Dadds holds court.

BROADMEAD MOVIES

Oscar Nominations Month
Saturdays, 7 p.m., Auditorium

Jan 4: Tár

The movie "invites you to think hard about Lydia Tár, about the meaning of her work and the consequences of her actions .

. . [and] about whether artists should be judged by their work or by how they live their lives" (Manola Dargis). Directed by Todd Field, with Cate Blanchett, Mark Strong, Julian Glover, Nina Hoss.

2022 Drama R 2 hr 38 min

Feb. 11: Nope

Following their father's shocking death, Hollywood animal wrangler OJ and his sister, Emerald, begin observing unexplained phenomena on their Southern California ranch, which they attempt to capture on camera. Directed by Jordan Peele, with Daniel Kaluuya, Keke Palmer, Steven Yeun.

2022 Sci-Fi R 2 hr 15 min

Feb. 18: Armageddon Time

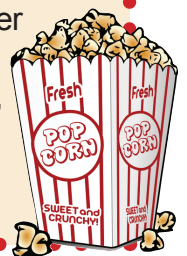
In 1980s New York, 12-year-old Paul and his best friend, John, are inseparable. But when the two get into trouble, Paul's parents enroll him in a private school, where he is forced to confront unfamiliar issues of race and class. With Anne Hathaway, Jeremy Strong, Anthony Hopkins.

2022 Drama R 1 hr 54 min

Feb. 25: Everything Everywhere All at Once

A laundromat owner is summoned to another world to save the universe. Members of her family appear in other universes in other guises. A wildly inventive look at the mother-daughter relationship. Michelle Yeoh, Stephanie Hsu, Jonathan Ke Quan, and Jamie Lee Curtis.

2022 Action Sci-Fi R 2 hr 12 min



• BROADMEAD BRIEFS •

New Year's Eve party returns



Bonnie Griffith, Denise Love, and Bonnie Lewis celebrate the coming of 2023.



Gabriella and Bob Youngblood, Barry and Helen French, and Bobbie and Ralph Cook enjoy a festive New Year's Eve. Photos by Kathleen Truelove.

Residents' names then and now

By Kathleen Truelove, photo by Erroll Hay

Since Broadmead opened in 1979, these have been the top five given names of residents: Elizabeth (68), Mary (63), Helen (40), John (37), and Margaret (34). The next five in popularity were Dorothy (29), Robert (27), Richard (26), and Virginia (25). In the course of digitizing Broadmead's archival material, Joe Nietubicz compiled this list.

These names were most common from the end of the 19th century through the first half of the 20th century. Interestingly, the top ten baby names of 2021 for boys and girls included none of these names.

Among current Broadmead residents, the five most common names are: Ann (14, various spellings), Elizabeth (14), Nancy (12), Linda (9), and John (8). Seven each are named Carolyn, Richard, and Susan, and five each are named Robert, David, and William.

Note: Nancy-Bets Hay contributed research.



Still popular names at Broadmead: Richard, Elizabeth, Margaret, Virginia, Dorothy, another Margaret, Helen, Nancy, another Richard, and Robert. Photo by Erroll Hay.

• BROADMEAD BRIEFS •

Robinsons celebrate milestones

By Jackie Mintz, photo by Kathleen Truelove



Sally and Court Robinson, 70 years married.
Photo by Kathleen Truelove.

January was a banner month for the Robinson family at Broadmead. Residents Court and Sally celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary surrounded by many members of their extended family at an afternoon event to which all of Broadmead was invited. (Only 2 percent of marriages last 60 years or more—Census Bureau data.)

In addition, a retrospective exhibit of portraits by their son Sam, called *All the World Is a Stage*, was installed in the South Hall, and a talk was given about the exhibit by Bobby Donovan, Broadmead Arts Council artistic advisor, who spoke on the history and nature of portraiture.

Christian Men's Connection

By Mike Goodrich

The Christian Men's Connection is a new group that meets on Fridays at 9 a.m., in the Fireplace Room. Everyone is invited to attend. These are informal sessions that allow residents and guests to meet and connect and to share experiences and faith journeys. Among the topics to be covered are examining the need to recover and restore family and personal values; sharing the guidance that helped you

to be successful in your career and that was important to your growth; and getting involved in developing solutions to the problems that people see every day.

Grandparents have an influence on the faith journey chosen by their children and grandchildren. Come and join the effort. Questions? Contact Mike Goodrich at 410-494-1041 or email mpgoodrich1010@gmail.com.



On January 16, a group of "Grand Friends" gathered in the Bistro. They were students from Friends School of Baltimore and Broadmead residents, coming together to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Day. Photos by Meisha Dockett.

Music Committee

Monthly Movie Musical Matinees

The Music Man

Wednesday, March 1
3 p.m., Auditorium

What and where are the Terrace Gardens?

By Marsha Howes, photos by Kathleen Truelove



The main terrace garden awaits the coming of spring. View from the Bistro.

The larger Terrace Garden, formerly known as the Rose Garden, is located on a level area near the pickleball court, behind Cluster A. The second Terrace Garden is a raised bed on the south end of the pickleball court. These gardens are tended by residents.

The larger Terrace Garden is designed in concentric circles. In the center, a small pond filled with aquatic plants provides a home for frogs. Grass paths surround the pond, which, in turn, are surrounded by four flower and shrub beds.

Other grass paths allow passers-by to stroll inside the largest circle of four garden beds. Native perennial plants and shrubs offer food for bees, birds, butterflies, moths and other beneficial insects and wildlife. Native plants in the garden include blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*), butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), eastern columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), dwarf crested iris (*Iris cristata*), foxglove beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*), mountain witch-alder (*Fothergilla major*), and moss phlox (*Phlox subulata*).

The raised garden bed offers deeply colored perennial and annual plants. Look for catnip (*Nepeta cataria*), tickseed (*Coreopsis 'Jethro Tull'*) and pink and coral peonies (*Paeonia spp.*), common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), and



The raised terrace garden seen in the background, beyond what is now the pickleball court. In front are zinnias in the cutting garden, used for arrangements in the Center.

zinnias (*Zinnia elegans*).

Six wooden pyramid trellises, or tuteurs, add architectural interest to the garden. These trellises were handcrafted by Dave Champney and Bob and Martha Morris.

The Terrace Gardens are designed for the enjoyment of Broadmead residents. The main garden can be viewed from the sidewalk that goes past the Bistro patio. The raised bed plantings are visible from the pickleball court.

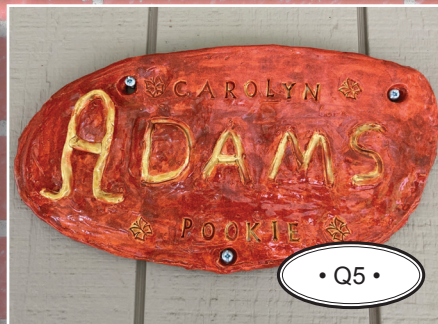
The Terrace Committee invites seasoned gardeners to collaborate in further development of the gardens. Contact Marsha Howes or Lucy Wright.

InSight

Low Vision Activity Meeting

Tuesday, February 21
Fireplace Room • 3:00–4:30 p.m.

Since the Garden Homes don't have the residents' names at the front door, some enterprising people have taken it upon themselves to identify their homes in various ways. Here are some examples.



In Memoriam

Margaret Lord

October 18, 1934 – January 2, 2023

Michael Kelly

August 10, 1937 – January 20, 2023

Nancy Clark

May 16, 1932 – January 21, 2023

William "Bill" Mitchell

June 23, 1938 – January 21, 2023

Let's Sing A Community Sing-along

First Mondays, 7 p.m., Auditorium

February 6

March 6

All voices welcome!

Music Committee

Old Bay Brass Quintet

Sunday, February 19, 3 p.m.
Auditorium



Kwanzaa celebration.

Journal of Poetry and Prose

Now accepting submissions for the
Spring 2023 issue

Maximum of two 8 x 11 pages Anything
longer must be serialized

Send submissions to:
brabusweb@gmail.com

The Journal is moving to a subscription
model, but it's still free. To keep getting
the Journal, please send an email to Joe
Nietubicz at joen1234@comcast.net.

Please include your name and
unit number.

Great Decisions

Barry Rascovar, Moderator

Thursdays, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Zoom sign-in will be available at 2:45 p.m.

February 2: War Crimes
February 9: China and the US
February 16: Economic Warfare
February 23: Politics in Latin America

Links can be found on Caremerge under
the "Upcoming Zoom Calls" tab.

Follow-up conversations at 4:45 p.m.
Seminar Room

Moving Around Broadmead

	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
Mary Frances Bacon	U 301	T-304
Michael Bielefeld	P-10	T-317
Mary "Ginny" Hoefner	P-10	T-309

Resident Email Lists (For current residents only)

To join the Broadmead Resident
email list:

Send an email to:
brabroadmead@gmail.com

To join the BRA Business email list:

Send an email to:
joen1234@comcast.net

(Do this also if you change your email address)

Voice of the Residents

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